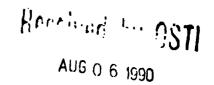
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AuthORIS: Frank 1. 123

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IS THERE ANYTHING OF PRACTICAL VALUE HIDDEN AMONGST THE COMPOSITE TOUGHENING THEORIES?! - A JIM MUELLER PERSPECTIVE*

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ABSTRACT

Numerous theories have been developed over the last three decades for explaining the toughening behavior of discontinuous fiber reinforced brittle matrix composites. The issue is the practical engineering utility of these theories. Upon compiling a table of fiber parameters that are identified in the predominant toughening mechanisms, a number of important features become evident for achieving high toughnesses. First, all of the mechanisms indicate that a high fiber volume fraction is desirable. Second, residual stresses appear to influence all of the composite toughening mechanisms. Third, the highest fiber tensile strength is preferred. Finally, fiber diameter and fibermatrix interfacial shear strength are also important, but both are composite system and toughening mechanism specific.

I. INTRODUCTION

It is a tremendous honor to present the 1990 James 1.

Mueller Memorial lecture. It is especially flattering to be the first student of Jim's to do such.

Nearly four years have passed since his death. It is a certainty that many of you knew Jim and it is also likely that some of you have little or no idea who this man was.

^{*}Presented at the 14th Annual Conference on Composites and Advanced Ceramics, sponsored by the Engineering Ceramics Division of the American Ceramic Society, Cocoa Beach, FL, January 15, 1990 (James I. Mueller Memorial Lecture).

^{**}Member: American Ceramic Society.

The following brief biography will stir up memories for some and provide new information for others.

James I. Mueller was born to August L. and Lydia (Heyn)
Mueller on June 26, 1916 (Figure 1.). Jim received his
B.S. in 1939 from Ohio State University and his Ph.D. in
1949 from the University of Missouri-Rolla. Both degrees
were in Ceramic Engineering.

Jim's accomplishments and awards were many. His career was centered around the University of Washington, which he joined in 1949 as an Assistant Professor, with the assignment of developing a Ceramic Engineering curriculum (Figure 2.). As a result of his efforts, the Ceramic Engineering Division was created within what was then the Department of Mining, Metallurgical and Ceramic Engineering, and is now termed the Department of Materials Science & Engineering. Many a renowned student have been produced by that department over the years, and "Doc," as his students affectionately called him, no doubt influenced all of them. One example is Astronaut Dr. Bornie J. Dunbar, who during the presentation of this lecture was orbitting the earth aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia! Bonnie was part of a five member crew tasked with two primary objectives, 1) the deployment of SYNCOM, a communications satellite, and most importantly from the standpoint of materials types, 2) the

The author did not realize until preparing this lecture that his son, Benjamin Thomas Gar, and James I. Mueller share the same birthday. Benjamin, however, arrived on the scene 64 years later.

long awaited retrieval of the Long Duration Exposure Facility or LDEF.

Space, what an exciting frontier! Doc was best known for his interest in the space program (Figure 3.). Between the years of 1963 to 1987, he received continuous funding from NASA totalling nearly eight million dollars (\$8 M). That translates to roughly two hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$240 +) per year. One especially noteworthy butcome from that research was the development of an innovative, new. interdisciplinary program entitled Brittle Materials Design. In fact, it was that program that attracted the author to the University of Washington to pursue a Ph.D. Yet another noteworthy development was the research Jim directed on addressing the attachment problems associated with the Space Shuttle's thermal projection tiles. This work resulted in Jim being awarded NASA's Public Service Medal in 1981.

Jim was also a devoted member of the American Ceramic Society. One cannot begin to review all of the committees and programs he participated in. Suffice it to say, however, that Jim's efforts did not go unnoticed. He was recognized both as a Fellow and a Distinguished Life Member of the American Ceramic Society, received numerous other awards, and herved as the President of the Society in 1981.

Finally. Jim had a propensity for the practical. He displayed an impressive ability to identify national and

worldwide trends in materials and boil these trends down to practical issues. These issues might be technical or administrative in nature, which having been identified could then be addressed by an individual or preferrably a team of individuals. Today's "Cocoa Beach Meeting," the Engineering Ceramics Division of the American Ceramic Society, and the United States Advanced Ceramics Association or USACA (Jim, incidentally, was USACA's first president in 1985) were no doubt heavily influenced by Jim Mueller's foresignt and propensity for the practical.

The next section will demonstrate how Jim Mueller's practical perspective pervades the author's approach to ceramic engineering, and more specifically influenced a topic of particular interest to the attendees of the 14th Annual Meeting on Composites and Advanced Ceramic Materials, namely, ceramic composite development. The question at hand is, is there anything of practical value hidden amongst the composite toughening theories?"

II. COMPOSITE TOUGHENING MECHANISMS

Numerous concepts have been proposed for toughening and to a certain extent, for strengthening of denamic matrix composites. All of the concepts can be generalized into one or more of three basic mechanisms, as illustrated in Figure 4. The mechanism embodies increasing the local driving force necessary to propagate a crack to failure. This could be accomplished by imposing a compressive stress state on

the ceramic. For example, by shrink fitting a metallic sleeve around a ceramic rod. A second mechanism involves increasing the mechanical energy consumed per unit area of crack propagation. The incorporation of a ductile phase in a ceramic would satisfy this criteria because mechanical energy would be consumed in plastically deforming the fluctile phase during crack propagation. The third mechanism involves decreasing the local strain by cracking, which reduces the crack tip stress concentration. Matrix microcracking without catastrophic fracture obviously satisfies this criteria. The issue, of course, is what is the engineering utility of the microcracked composite.

The predominant toughening concepts are enumerated in Figure 5. The remainder of this lecture will elaborate on the practical fundamentals of most of these concepts and culminate with a table that one can use as a guide for the development of fiber or whisker reinforced ceramic matrix composites.

1. Modulus Transfer

This mechanism operates on the basis of transferring the applied load from a lower elastic modulus matrix to the higher elastic modulus fibers, to achieve strain uniformity within the structure (i.e., strain in composite = fiber strain = matrix strain). A strong, non-slipping intermatrix interface is required for this mechanism to operate effectively.

For a composite reinforced with continuous, unidirectionally aligned fibers, the corresponding stress in the composite is given by:

$$\sigma_c = \sigma_m \left[(1 - V_f) + V_f \frac{E_f}{E_m} \right] \tag{1}$$

where σ_n is the stress in the composite, σ_m is the stress in the matrix, V_r is the volume fraction of fibers, and E_r and E_m are the modulus of elasticity of the fiber and matrix. respectively. Examination of this expression reveals that the greatest improvement in the composite strength would occur when the elastic modulus of the fiber is much greater than the elastic modulus of the matrix. In addition, the higher the fiber volume fraction the better (up to a practical limit, of course).

A potential composite that could benefit from the modulus transfer concept is the silicon carbide (SiC) whisker - reaction bonded silicon nitride (RBSN) matrix system. The elastic modulus of VLS SiC whiskers has been reported to be 581 GPa (84.3 Mpsi) and that of RBSN is reported to vary over the range of 97-221 GPA (14.1-32.1 Mpsi). Thus, the elastic modulus of the SiC whiskers is 3-6 times greater than that of the RBSN. Hence, strengthening by the modulus transfer concept is conceivable. The difficulty arises in maintaining the SiC whisker integrity during RBSN fabrication.

Toughening is accomplished through this concept simply because an increase in local driving force is required to propagate a crack through the composite system, as increased load is being accomposated by the fiber. When dealing with discontinuous fiber or whisker reinforced composites, one must also address the load that a given length fiber can bear and the stress concentrations that occur at the fiber ends. This concept was nicely illustrated by Schuster in a composite consisting of a 25 µm diameter by 3000 µm long sapphire whisker in a photoelastic resin matrix, as shown in Figure 6. The elastic modulus ratio of the whisker to the matrix is approximately 125. The matrix stress reduction along the length of the whisker is roughly a factor of two, whereas the stress is intensified at the whisker tips by a factor of three.

2. Fiber Pull-out

An expression has been developed for the fiber pull-out theory which defines the maximum work-of-fracture (WOF) one can achieve in a composite. This is important because the WOF is an indication of the toughness (or more specifically, the R-curve behavior) of the composite. The expression is:

$$WOF_{ii} = \frac{V_f \sigma_f^2 r_f}{12\tau}$$
 (2)

where WOF, is the maximum work-of-fracture for fiber pull-out, r_r is the fiber-matrix

interfacial shear strength, and all other terms are as previously defined. This expression states that the composite "toughness" will be enhanced with large values of fiber volume fraction, high fiber strength, a small interfacial shear strength, and, interestingly enough, a large fiber radius.

3. Crack Bridging

Another important toughening concept that is receiving a lot of attention is crack bridging. The crack bridging theory is a postulates that intact reinforcements behind the primary crack front will bridge the crack surfaces in the following wake region, thus inhibiting further crack opening and reducing the stress intensity at the crack tip. Evans and McMeeking in have proposed three bounding solutions for this model: 1) frictional bridging resulting from an unbinded fiber, 2) strong particle bridging, and 3) ductile particle bridging.

a. Frictional Bridging (Figure 7.) When the reinforcing fibers are unbonded and fiber motion is restrained by friction, then the critical stress intensity factor (toughness), K_a , for frictional bridging can be approximated by:

$$K_{\rm c} \approx (\sigma_{\rm f}^3 {\rm G}/3 {\rm E}_{\rm fT})^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{{\rm E}_{\rm f} {\rm A}_{\rm f}} \tag{3}$$

where G is the elastic shear modulus of the composite. A, is the areal fraction of reinforcements on the crack plane (an

indication of the volume fraction of reinforcements) and all other terms are as previously defined.

b. Strong Particle Bridging (Figure 8.) The critical stress intensity factor for the strong particle bridging case is approximated by:

$$K_c \approx 1.1 \,\sigma_f \sqrt{r_f A_f (1 - \sqrt{A_f})(1 - A_f)} \tag{4}$$

where now the "f" subscript simply refers to the reinforcement, be it a whisker or a particle. This expression represents the situation where the interfacial shear strength goes to infinity, such as for whiskers that are strongly bonded to a matrix. It should be noted that the bridging particle does not need to be tougher than the matrix for this mechanism to operate. It must only be stronger.

c. Ductile Particle Bridging (Figure 9.) When the particle is "tougher" than the matrix, the situation can be described by a ductile-particle-extension bridging mechanism. The expression for that critical stress intensity factor is approximated by:

$$K_c \approx \sqrt{\Omega C \Lambda_f \sigma_y G r_f(0.5 + exp(\epsilon_f))}$$
 (5)

where Ω is an empirical factor related to the ductility and size of the ductile particle, C is a constraint factor that is believed to be of the order of 6-8 for crack pinning by

ductile particle reinforcement, $\sigma_{\rm c}$ is the yield stress of the particle, $\epsilon_{\rm r}$ is the particle failure strain, and all other terms are as previously defined.

One central result emerges from these three crack bridging mechanisms. Namely, that toughening will increase with increasing reinforcement strength, increasing reinforcement forcement size or diameter, and increasing reinforcement volume fraction.

4. Crack Arresting/Blunting

Yet another toughening mechanism is crack arresting or blunting. On one hand, it can be viewed as a generalized form of crack bridging, in that it represents the extreme case where the particles have sufficient strength and toughness to completely resist fracture. On the other hand, it represents a situation where crack propagation is eliminated by removing the stress concentration at the crack tip, such as by introducing a hole (e.g., a circular or spherical pore; ahead of a propagating crack. The issue is one of composite performance criteria. A particle which displays sufficient toughness to arrest cracking at ambient temperature, e.g., a metal, may be much too plastic and/or lack environmental resistance at elevated temperatures. Conversely, refractory reinforcements are typically brittle at ambient temperature, and thus, lack the fracture toughness necessary to completely arrest fracture in that temperature regime. Finally, the presence of porosity may

be advantageous from the standpoint of toughness but can have an undesirable affect on strength.

5. Crack Bowing

The crack bowing concept¹⁰ in is related to crack bridging in that it is also a crack impediment process. As described by Faber and Evans¹²:

"Crack bowing originates from resistant second phase particles in the path of a propagating crack. The crack tends to bow between the particles, causing the stress intensity along the bowed segment of the crack to decrease (while resulting in a corresponding increase in the stress intensity at the particle). The degree of bowing increases until the fracture toughness of the particle is reached, whereupon crack advance ensues."

The crack bowing concept is illustrated in Figure 10., with a sketch taken from a publication by Lange. In this work, Lange proposed a model for crack bowing that was based upon the hypothesis that a crack front possesses a line energy similar to a dislocation. The result of this work is contained in the following equation:

$$G_c = 2\left(\gamma_0 + \frac{T}{D}\right) \tag{6}$$

where G. is the amount of energy required to extend a crack a unit length (i.e., the fracture energy), .. is the surface

energy of the matrix material, T is the line energy per unit length of crack front, and D is the distance between the second phase particles. This expression indicates that a brittle material's resistance to fracture, i.e., toughness, increases with a decreasing mean free path between the particles, and hence, an increasing volume fraction of particles. This implies a particle size dependence in that at a given volume fraction, smaller particles will provide for more crack pinning sites per unit volume. Lange also concluded that significant toughening does not occur unless the particle spacing is significantly less than the flaw size.

6. Crack Deflection

The crack deflection conception is related to the crack bowing concept in that it similarly addresses the interaction of a propagating crack with a second phase inclusion or particle. The distinction lies in the fact that crack deflection produces a non-planar (twisted) crack, as illustrated in Figure 11., whereas crack bowing only produces a non-linear crack front. The non-planar crack arises either from residual stresses present in the material and/or from the existence of weakened interfaces.

Faber and Evansivers conducted a systematic study of chack definction in an attempt to develop a model for the phenomenon. The model is based on fracture mechanic principles and basically consists of two parts, a crack tilt function and a crack twist function. They assumed that when

a crack approaches or intercepts a microstructural inhomogeneity, it will tilt at an angle that depends on the prientation and position of the particle with respect to the advancing crack, as well as upon the nature of the residual stress that may be present between the particle and the matrix. The tilted crack is subject to mixed-mode local loading, characterized by Mode I (opening) and Mode II (sliding) contributions to the stress intensity. Faber and Evans them assumed that subsequent advance of the crack may result in crack front twist and additional tilt, depending on the orientation, position and stress state of adjacent particles. The twisted crack contains both Mode I and Mode III (tearing) stress intensity components. They proposed that the increase in fracture toughness imparted by crack deflection could then be determined by evaluating the local stress intensities at the tilted and twisted portions of the crack front. Faber and Evans proceeded with this analysis and also incorporated particle morphology effects by investigating three dominant morphologies: a sphere, a rod, and a disk.

As a result of their analysis of crack deflection, Faber and Evans' presented a number of important conclusions. The increase in toughness imparted by crack deflection depends on particle shape and the volume fraction of the second phase. The most effective particle morphology for deflecting cracks is the rod of "high" aspect ratio. However, the toughening increase tends to saturate at aspect

ratios greater than about 12. Similarly, toughening saturates at fiber volume fractions of about 20%. The Faber-Evans analysis also predicted that toughening will be independent of fiber size. However, some question exists on this prediction, since at a given volume fraction, smaller particles will provide for more crack interaction sites. Finally, the Faber-Evans analysis made no prediction as to the effect of interfacial bond strength on toughening, although it is certainly understood that weakened interfaces directly influence the propensity for crack deflection.

7. Matrix Microcracking

The phenomenon of matrix microcracking occurs because of thermal expansion differences, phase transformations and differences in elastic moduli between the matrix and a second phase. "I "" The refractories industry has capitalized on microcracking for years to achieve thermal shock resistant bodies. The microcracks in these systems are iften pre-existing and large in size, resulting in relatively weak todies. In more recent lears, the generation of small microcracks at, or near, a main track tip has become a topic of interest. Microcracks occur from the superposition of the high tensile stresses concentrated near the crack tip with the intrinsic mismatch stresses, resulting in a microcracked "process" zone around the crack tip, as illustrated in Figure 12.

A first order estimate of the upper bound of fracture energy increase. G., due to microcracking (per unit area

of advance of the main crack) was determined by Rice. The result is presented in equation (7):

$$\Delta G_{mc} = \frac{2\pi a \gamma_{mc} V_f L}{d} \tag{7}$$

where L and aL are the major and minor axes of an elliptical microcrack process zone (a is < 1), me is the microcrack interfacial fracture energy, V_r is the volume fraction of second phase particles, and d is the diameter of the second phase particles. Thus, G_{me} is directly proportional to the boundary fracture energy, the volume fraction of particles which induce the microcracks, and the process zone size. It is inversely proportional to the diameter of the particles.

8. Residual Stress Effects

The importance of elastic modulus differences have already been discussed, and the influence of phase transformations and thermal expansion differences have been alluded to. Residual stresses resulting from thermal

expansion differences merit additional discussion.

Thermal expansion differences can result in residual stresses which may directly influence the load bearing and toughening characteristics of a composite. For a two-dimensional problem in plane strain consisting of a circular reinforcement particle (fiber) embedded in an infinite matrix, the fiber experiences a radial stress, σ , which can be approximated by ch :

$$\sigma_{\rm r} = \frac{(\alpha_{\rm m} - \alpha_{\rm f})\Delta TE_{\rm m}}{(1 + \nu_{\rm m}) + (1 + \nu_{\rm f})(E_{\rm m}/E_{\rm f})} \tag{B}$$

where α_m is the thermal expansion coefficient of the matrix, α_r is the thermal expansion coefficient of the fiber, T is the change in temperature, $_m$ is the Poisson's ratio of the matrix, $_r$ is the Poisson's ratio of the fiber, and E_m and E_r are the same as previously defined.

When $\alpha_r > \alpha_m$, cooling from the processing temperature places the fiber in tension and the matrix in compression. Silicon carbide whiskers in a silicon nitride or cordierite matrix are examples of this situation. In this scenario, an increased local driving force would be necessary for crack propagation to occur through the matrix. If the fibermatrix mismatch is too large and/or the interfacial bond is too weak, then cracks may develop around the fiber, essentially debonding the fiber from the matrix. This could be beneficial to toughening by a fiber pull-out mechanism. but it would probably inhibit significant strengthening. Another point to consider is that if the interfacial bond strength is so large that the matrix is maintained in compression, then the fiber is "pre-loaded" in tension. This may reduce the overall tensile load that the fiber can sustain within the composite and the strength of the composite may not achieve its optimal level.

If the $\alpha_{\rm P} < \alpha_{\rm m}$, copling from the processing temperature places the fiber in compression and the matrix in tension.

This is the situation for SiC whiskers reinforcing alumina, mullite, molybdenum disilicide, magnesium aluminate spinel or zirconia matrices. This scenario is believed to enhance toughening by matrix microcracking and crack multiplication. It could also enhance toughening by promoting crack bridging by the fiber, since greater applied stresses must be imposed on the fibers to attain their fracture stresses.

9. Summary of Toughening Theory Predictions

Table 1 summarizes the toughening predictions for discontinuous fiber reinforced ceramic matrix composites. From the practical materials engineering viewpoint, a number of features are evident in this tabular summary. First, all mechanisms dictate that a high fiber volume fraction is desirable for achieving maximum toughness; i.e., "more is better." Hence, processing research should be directed at effectively incorporating high volume loadings (at least 10 and preferrably >20 vol%) of fibers within ceramic matrices. Second, residual stresses appear to influence all of the composite toughening mechanisms, although few relationships have been developed for quantitatively predicting the residual stresses or their effects on composite toughness. Thus, research is warranted in this area. In spite of this lack of predictive capabilities, the competent ceramic matrix composite designer should at least be cognizant of the influence that residual stresses may have on his composite system. Third, it appears that the highest fiber tensile strength is advantageous; i.e., "stronger is

better." Thus, a high strength, single crystal SiG whisker would be preferred over a phopped, polyprystalline SiG fiber, whose strength is inherently lower. Finally, the fiber diameter and fiber-matrix intertactal shear strength also appear to be important, but both are composite system and toughening mechanism specific.

111. CLOSING REMARKS

This lecture was configured so that it would be of value to the novice and expert alike. Thus, it is the author's hope that all who read this manuscript might identify a nugget or preferrably a motherload of useful information on composite development. In response to the question, "Is there anything of practical value hidden amongst the composite toughening theories?!", the answer is, "Yes, absolutely!" The likely follow-up response from "Doc" might be. "Go, what are you doing sitting on your ____?!

Get out there and do something!" "Figure 13.7.

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FIGURE CAPTIONS

- 1. Appreviated vita of James !. Mueiler.
- 2. Summary of James 1. Muelier's history at the University or Washington.
- Summary of James : Mueller's accomplishemnts and awards.
- 4. The numerous toughening concepts can be generalized into three basic mechanisms.
- Enumeration of the predominant toughening concepts.
- 5. Cornell University (1967).
- 7. Illustration of crack bridging configuration for slipping ribers: adapted from A. G. Evans and R. M. McMeeking. "On the Toughening of Ceramics by Strong Reinforcements." Acta Met., 34 [12] 2435-41 (1986).
- 8. Illustration of crack bridging configuration for strong particles: adapted from ibid.
- 9. !!!ustration of crack bridging configuration with ductile particles: adapted from ibid.
- 10. !llustration of the crack bowing concept; adapted from F. F. Lange. "The Interaction of a Crack Front with a Second-Phase Dispersion." Philos. Mag., 22 983-92 (1970).
- 11. Illustration of crack deflection around rods of two aspect ratios (R): from K. T. Faber and A. G. Evans. "Crack Deflection Processes I. Theory," Acta Met.. 31 565-76 (1983).
- 12. Idealized microcrack process zone around tip of main crack; adapted from R. W. Rice. "Mechanisms of Toughening in Ceramic Composites." Ceram. Eng. Sci. Proc. 2 [7-8] 661-701 (1981).
- 13. "Doc's" likely response to this lecture.

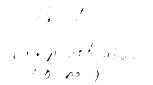
Table 1. Influence of Fiber Parameters on the Toughness of Ceramic Matrix Composites

Mechanisms	Fiber Parameters							Resid Stress Param.		Induence on
	e/d	V _f	d=2r,	01	T	f-spac	K,	E ₁ /E _m	01/0m	Composite K.
Modulus Transfer		1		1	1			≥2		1
tiber Puli Out	Max K_c 0 $(\ell/d)_{cp} = \sigma_1/2\tau$	ı	t	1	1			-important-		1
Crack Bridging		1	1	1	etrong (but limited)		•	-important-		1
Crack Arresting/Blunting		-1-				-1-	.i.	-imj	oortant-	1
Crack Bowing		1	•t•			1	-1-	-important-		1
Crack Deflection] (sat. G 12)	† (sat. G 20)	indep. (controversial)		no predict. (but important)			-important-		1
Matrix Microcracking		ī	1			•••		"<1"	"<1"	1

Note 1: $\ell/d = \hbar$ ber length-to-diameter ratio, $V_1 = \hbar$ ber volume fraction, $d = \hbar$ ber diameter, $r_1 = \hbar$ ber radius, $\sigma_1 = \hbar$ ber tensile strength, $r = \hbar$ ber-matrix interfactal shear strength, f-spac. = distance between \hbar bers, $K_1 = \hbar$ ber fracture toughness, $E_1 = \hbar$ ber Young's modulus, $E_m = m$ atrix Young's modulus, $\sigma_1 = \hbar$ ber coefficient of thermal expansion, $\sigma_m = m$ atrix coefficient of thermal expansion, $K_1 = m$ contical stress intensity (toughness) of composite

Note 2: Symbols surrounded by quotations represent intuitive predictions, all other predictions are the result of theoretical models.

The importance of the fiber toughness depends on the type of crack bridging mechanism that is operating.





VITA

Born: June 26, 1916, Cincinnati, OH

Parents: August L., Lydia (Heyn)

Education: B. S. in Ceramic Engineering,

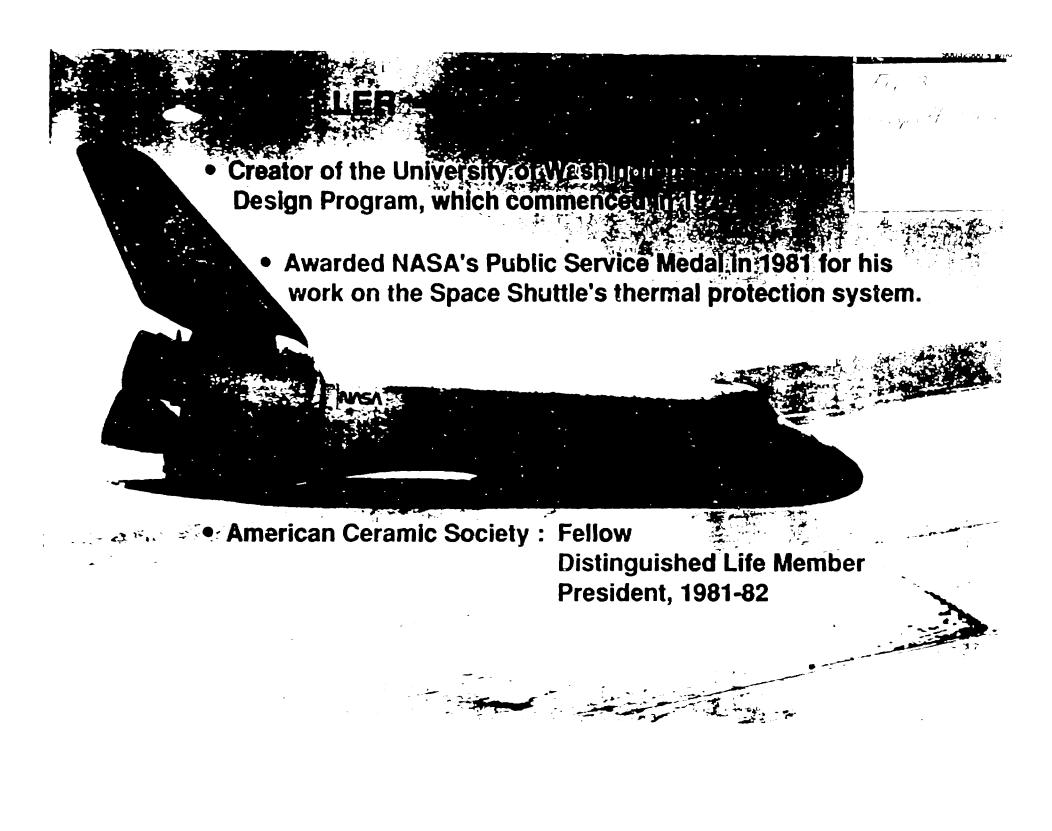
Ohio State University, 1939

Ph. D. in Ceramic Engineering, University of Missouri-Rolla,

1949

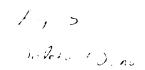


- · Assistant Maria 1949
- Associate Professor, 1951
- Professor
- Instrumental in the creation of the Ceramic Engineering Division within the Department of Mining, Metallurgical and Ceramic Engineering.



BASIC TOUGHENING MECHANISMS

- Increase the local driving force necessary for crack propagation
- Increase the mechanical energy consumed per unit area of crack propagation
- Decrease the local strain by cracking, which reduces the crack tip stress concentration



FOUGHENING CONCEPTS PROPOSED FOR CERAMIC MATRIX COMPOSITES

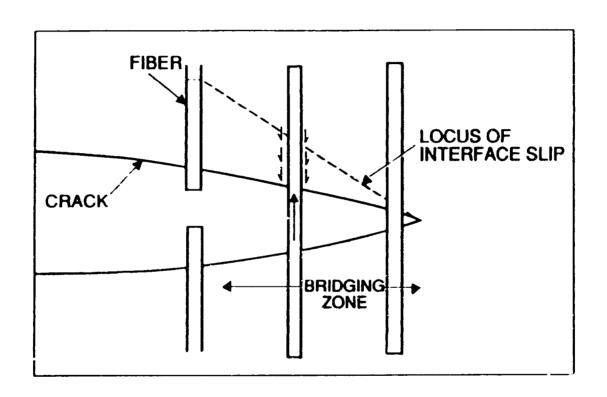
- 1. Modulus Transfer
- 2. Residual Stress
- 3. Transformation Toughening 8. Crack Deflection
- 4. Fiber Pull-Out
- 5. Crack Bridging

- 6. Crack Arresting
- 7. Crack Bowing
- 9. Matrix Microcracking

Fig. 1

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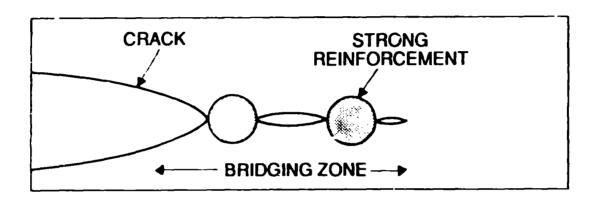
FRICTIONAL BRIDGING



$$K_c \approx (\sigma_f^3 G/3E_f \tau)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{r_f A_f}$$

· De Colorer Solver

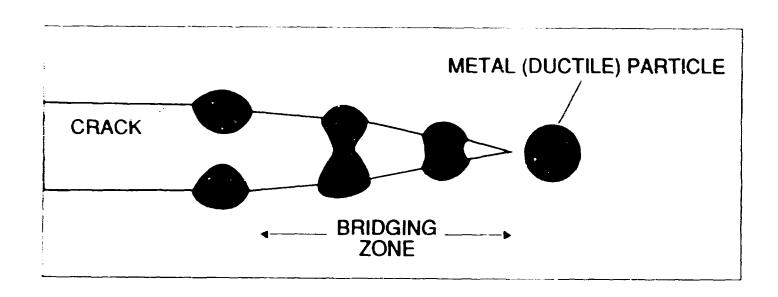
STRONG PARTICLE BRIDGING



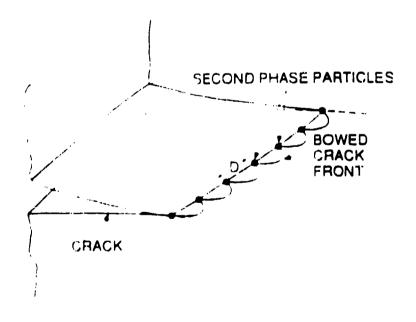
$$K_c \approx 1.1 \sigma_f \sqrt{r_f A_f (1 - \sqrt{A_f}) (1 - A_f)}$$

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DUCTILE PARTICLE BRIDGING



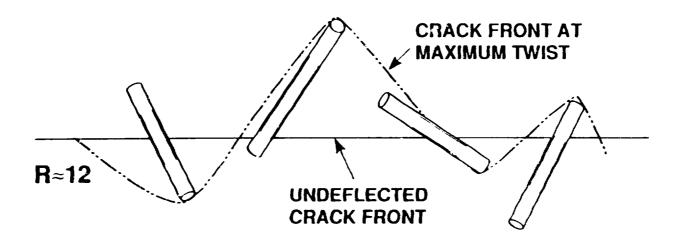
$$K_c \approx \sqrt{\Omega CA_f \sigma_y Gr_f (0.5 + exp(\epsilon_f))}$$

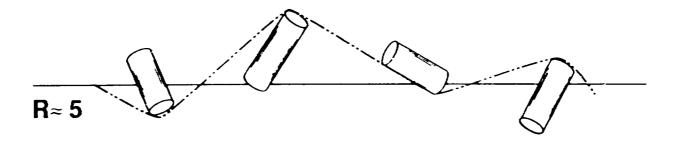


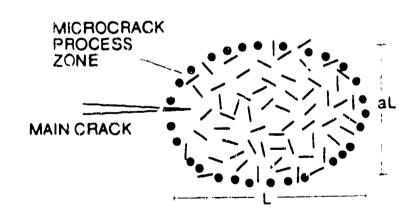
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the property of the contract of the

CRACK DEFELCTION PRODUCES A NON-PLANAR (TWISTED) CRACK









"So, what are you doing sitting on your ?! Get out there and do something!"

"Doc" circa 1949 - 86